Mariculture Investments as Economic Stimulus

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March 23, 2021

The following investment recommendations are made with the intent to increase profitability, expand participation and provide coordination for expedited development of the mariculture industry. These recommendations are also a part of long-term and short-term plans to develop this industry in the <u>Alaska Mariculture Development Plan</u> and the <u>Five-Year Action Plan</u> produced by the Governor's Mariculture Task Force. *Make Alaska the Mariculture Capital of the World!*

1) Alaska Mariculture Alliance (AMA) & Mariculture Research & Training Center (MRTC): \$25 million

This investment will allow the continued work of industry and varied stakeholders to develop the industry in a coordinated and expedited way by the creation of the following:

- Endowment fund (\$5 M) to stabilize long-term operations of the AMA & MRTC
- Matching grant program (\$20 M) to encourage and fund aligned development, research and training (this is separate from #2 below)

2) Mariculture Revolving Loan Fund (MRLF): \$25 million

This investment will expand an existing state program, while altering the program to accommodate the following:

- Mariculture Farmers: provide 50/50 grant/loan funds for farmers to expand operations or start new operations.
- Mariculture Hatcheries: provide 50/50 grant/loan funds for expansion of existing hatcheries or development of new hatcheries (e.g. mobile hatcheries).
- Mariculture Processors: provide 50/50 grant/loan funds for companies to purchase new mariculture processing equipment (e.g. mobile processing).

3) Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute (ASMI): \$500,000

Invest in the creation of mariculture promotional materials which can be incorporated into ASMI's marketing efforts over the next 10 years, utilizing the power of the Alaska Seafood brand to grow demand for new mariculture products from Alaska.